

The Caper



Our 52nd Year

Cape St. Claire Improvement Association, Inc. Community Newsletter

November 2007

Call For Candidates!!! Join the Cape St. Claire Improvement Association's Board of Governors — More on Page 3

Piers Committee: Summer Activities

We have had a busy spring and summer this year. Last spring, in what may become an annual event, we updated information for everyone on the waiting list. A letter was sent asking for updated information with instructions to return the letter within 4 weeks. Those who didn't return the letter by then would be dropped from the waiting list.

Of the 225+ letters sent out, we received responses from all but 30-45. A few more have come in since then with valid excuses (like the one from a Cape resident currently serving in Iraq!), and we ended up dropping approximately 30 people from the waiting list.

We also performed random surveys of boat slips to determine who had their boats in the slip, and who didn't. After a month of these surveys, everyone who wasn't in their slip was sent a letter explaining the policy that all boats had to be in the slips at least ½ of the season. If they did not have their boat in the slip by July 16th, they would lose their slip.

After a mad rush of boats going in the water the last week before July 16th, there were 6 who didn't contact the Piers Committee for an extension and didn't have their boats in the water. Those people were

sent letters telling them they would not be offered a boat slip next year.

We've had pretty good success with these two initiatives, so we will probably continue them next year. In addition, we plan to monitor boat usage as well. By doing these surveys we should have a pretty good idea of who is using their boats, and who is using their slip as "wet storage" which is a violation of the piers contract.

This year we also:

- **Replaced the entire length of standpipe on Lake Claire.**

The fire department found that the old standpipe had broke and our plumbers informed us the iron pipe had corroded to such an extent that we had no choice but to replace it.

- **Ran a new electric line to Deep Creek Small.** The old power line was run in a narrow conduit with a severe bend in it. We could no longer repair that line. We dug up the pavement and ran a new, larger conduit with new power lines, so that we can better work on the electric in the future.

Performed a lot of maintenance on the electrical systems at Little Magothy. We've spent several thousand dollars trying to maintain the electrical

system at Little Magothy. We're evaluating our options for improving the system at Little Magothy so that we have a more stable electrical system.

The date for putting in the bubbler system is December 1, 2007. We'll meet down at Deep Creek around 10:00 and begin the annual ritual of putting in the bubbler system for the winter. We'll need volunteers as usual and beverages and pizza will be provided after the work is completed. Mark your calendars now!

I hope you all have a chance to get out on the water while the weather is still nice.

Sam Gallagher
Chair, Piers Committee

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The deadline for articles and ads is the 12th of the month.

The Caper is published monthly and sent bulk rate to all residents of Cape St. Claire, all nonresident lot owners, local government officials and advertisers. Copies are also available in CSCIA Office, Broadneck Library and local stores.

POLICY FOR ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

All submissions for *The Caper* must be received by the editor by the 12th of the prior month. Submissions should be emailed as Microsoft Word attachments (PC only) to: capereditor@cscia.org, or dropped off (on disc or CD) at the Clubhouse. Articles must be submitted electronically. DO NOT submit as inline text of email. All articles should be clearly labeled with the 1) submitter's name, 2) phone number, 3) article file-name (s), 4) software product and 5) version used. Please keep a backup copy of each file and do not submit disks containing extraneous files. After *The Caper* processes each article, the submitter's disk can be picked up at the CSCIA office during regular hours. *The Caper* Staff and the Cape St. Claire Improvement Association reserve the right to refuse any article, letter or advertising that it deems inflammatory, in poor taste or inappropriate.

Board in Brief

The CSCIA Board of Governors met for its monthly meeting on October 15, 2007 at the Cape St. Claire Clubhouse at 7:30 p.m. in the Cox Meeting Room. President Josephine Gardner provided opening remarks and presented the agenda for the meeting.

Attendance: Governors Biondi, Campbell, Daly, Gallagher, Gardner, Knotts, Morgan and Wolin were in attendance. Governors Lamb, Maltz and Newman were absent.

President's Remarks: President Josephine Gardner

- The CSCIA recently supported an effort by residents on Mountain Top Drive to ask the

County to conduct a study to determine the possible need for a speed hump. In response to that request, a County engineer reported back that vehicle counters and speed detectors would be installed. If the parameters are met, a speed hump installation study will follow. The whole process takes about six months to complete.

This is an issue of recurring damage at the clubhouse during rentals. Although Cape residents are renting the clubhouse, it was determined that most of the damage to the clubhouse is being done by people attending the functions who are not Cape residents. She will ask the Clubhouse Committee chair to review the rental contracts and procedures.

Minutes and Financials:

Motions were made to approve the September 10, 2007 Monthly BOG Meeting Minutes, the July 31, 2007 Financials and the August 31, 2007 Financials. All of the motions were seconded and unanimously approved.

Building Variance and Building Permit Requests:

A resident asked for a building permit variance to remodel a garage that would remain on its original footprint, however, does not meet the side setback requirement. The resident presented plans, drawings and reasons for the request, then answered several questions from Board members.

Another resident requested a building permit to build a house, breezeway and a garage. Due to
(Cont. on page 3)

Cape St. Claire Improvement Association

www.cscia.org

The Board of Governors

Office:

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Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer

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Josephine Gardner
Sam Gallagher
Joe Daly
Lou Biondi

Committee:

Beaches & Parks

Building
Caper
Clubhouse
Covenants
Long Range Planning
Membership
Personnel
Piers & History
Roads
Website
Nominating

Chair:

Frank Newman and Matt Puglisi
Joe Daly
Kari Maltz
Mary Lamb
Joe Daly
Dan Wolin
Barbara Morgan
Josephine Gardner
Sam Gallagher
Bruce Campbell
Frank Newman
Mary Lamb

Budget Committee:

John Berley, Wayne Morrison,
Jack Savage

Board (from page 2)

the extensive construction, the Building Committee chair wanted the whole Board to have an opportunity to ask the resident any questions about the project. This resident also provided building plans and answered several questions from Board members.

After final discussions on both issues, the Board agreed to go into a Closed Session meeting to further discuss both requests and make their decisions. Final results: The Board decided to approve a building variance for the first resident and approve a building permit for the second resident.

Committee Reports:

Nominating: Governor Knotts advised that he is seeking nomi-


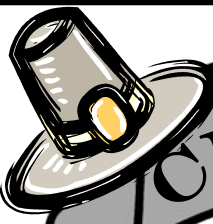
nations to the Board of Governors and Budget Committee, including placing articles in the Caper in October and November.

Piers Committee – Governor Gallagher stated that he sent letters to slip renters advising them that the Little Magothy and Lake Claire boat slip areas will be closed for the winter, including electric and water. These renters can agree to put their boats at Deep Creek for the winter, with a return to their regular slips by April 15th. Also, the bubbler system will be installed on December 1st.

Adjournment: The regular October 15, 2007 BOG Monthly meeting ended at 8:55 p.m. The next monthly Board of Governors meeting is scheduled for **November 12, 2007 at 7:30 PM.**

Calling All Candidates


There are five Board seats up for grabs this year. We need a good field of candidates to assure the best outcome for the community!! The deadline for deciding to run is November 15. If you think you can help the community be the best that Anne Arundel County has to offer, now is the time to volunteer to become a Board member. Please send your self-nomination to Chris Knotts (Nominating Committee Chair) at: Nominating2007@cscia.org If you prefer, you may drop off your contact information at the CSCIA office located at: 1223 River Bay Road, Annapolis, MD 21409. The office phone number is 410-757-1223 if you have any questions.



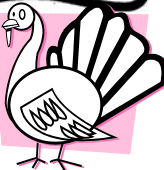
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Cape Cuisine

By: Ben and Kathleen Mooneyhan

We were excited to see in September's issue that the Caper asked for volunteers to write a food column.

We are fairly new residents in the Cape and have been enjoying reading the community newsletter. We also love to eat, cook, try different restaurants and write, so we thought we'd take a stab at it!

This month we focused on a couple restaurants and a local wine tasting. We're also including a fun recipe.

West Side Grill on West Street in Annapolis: This restaurant recently changed hands and had been "Griffins West" for some years. We had lunch on a Saturday afternoon. We were both surprised to see that there were very few patrons inside. We felt that the location is good and there should have been some more people inside. Kathleen had a cup of chicken tortilla soup (\$6),

which was among the best she had ever tasted. Ben had the turkey burger (\$9) which he found surprising tasty, with veggies instead of fries on the side. We felt that the meal was worth what we paid for and we'll go back.

Cynthia's in Park Plaza Severna Park: A suspiring gem of a restaurant tucked into a strip mall! While the front of the restaurant could easily be confused for a Hair Cuttery, the experience you'll have inside is amazing! This is an upscale restaurant with a small, but comfortable atmosphere and outstanding service. The menu is not extensive, but features interesting meat, fish and poultry dishes which are expertly prepared and the presentation is very creative. We especially enjoyed the shrimp tempura appetizer. And the home-made rolls are to die for! It's a great place for a special meal, but it's not cheap.

Griffins Grill in Arnold on Ritchie Highway (used to be Texas Steaks): Our description in one word: disappointing. We ate there with Kathleen's sister and niece one Saturday night for dinner. Kathleen ordered the crab cakes which seemed to con-

tain more parsley and filler than crab product. Ben and our niece both ordered spaghetti, which was mediocre at best. Although we did have very good service, we felt that the prices were too high for the quality of the food and that the dining area was loud and lacked any character or atmosphere. Perhaps the lounge area where they offer music, including karaoke, might be more appealing to some.

Bella's Wine Tasting: We enjoyed a fun wine tasting event at Bella's liquors in the Cape Shopping Center. A variety of Washington State wines were paired with some very yummy appetizers. Kathleen's favorite pick: Vivacious Vicky. It's a smooth, light bodied Washington State table red wine that is "dedicated to anybody or any occasion in your life that makes you smile." Bella's offers these free wine tastings periodically, so check on it!

Ben's beer pick of the month: Shiner Bock. He describes it as "a smooth, medium-body beer, excellent with chili or other spicy foods."

(Cont. on page 5)

Off Duty Firefighter



THE CHIMNEY GUY

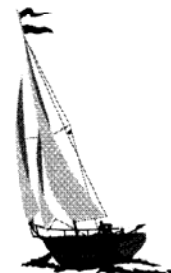
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Cuisine (from page 4)

Recipe of the Month:
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Transplanted: A Caper Overseas

By Audrey Lengbeyer

It seems I can't travel anywhere anymore without looking (longingly) at the plants in people's gardens, and coming to Israel has been no exception.

Everywhere I go I'm looking around at the plantings, and in Israel plantings are serious business. Without them, the landscape would be pretty barren, with some desert brush and rock but nothing else. Israel has obviously invested large amounts of funding into public plantings, because parks, city street medians, traffic circles, and just about all places in populated areas are filled with lush plantings, all of them fed by seemingly limitless lengths of irrigation tubing that you can see lying on the surface around trees and in the bare soil when the beds are newly planted and not yet filled in.

Haifa doesn't receive a drop of rain all summer, so all plantings, even mature trees and shrubs, receive water from the drip irrigation laid on the ground. Winter does bring moisture to much

of Israel's northern half (the southern half is desert), to varying degrees.

Sadly, Israel has not seemed to learn the value of mulching plantings with organic mulches like wood chips, bark, chipped leaves, or even compost. In fact, the notion of composting is seemingly unknown here, which is shocking given the role agriculture has played in the formation of the Israeli state and identity.

When the state of Israel was founded by UN mandate in 1948, many of the first citizens lived in cooperative, socialist enterprises called kibbutzim. The members of each kibbutz shared the land, housing, and resources of the kibbutz equally. Members ate together in a cafeteria, and their children were raised all together in a children's house, where they slept, away from their parents.

The foundation of these kibbutzim was agriculture: grape vineyards, fruit and nut tree orchards, and crop fields. Now, nearly all of the kibbutzim have become more capitalistic, paying each member ac-

cording to his skills and education, and allowing private ownership of the housing (as well as private raising of the children!), and branching out into industrial and manufacturing enterprises. And the role of the remaining kibbutzim in modern Israeli life is much smaller than it once was in Israel's founding days. Still, today agriculture remains an important part of Israel's commerce.

We very frequently drive past orange groves, vineyards, and palm groves. Many other fruits, melons, and vegetables are grown here as well. Despite this historical connection to the land and the continuing importance of agriculture, however, Israel as a culture has absolutely no notion of reusing organic wastes as fertilizer for the land.

It's particularly shocking whenever I walk past one of the many juicing stands, where pomegranates, oranges, grapefruits, and all kinds of other fruits and vegetables are made into (delicious) juice for sale. Piles upon piles of melon rinds, crushed halves of fruit, and ground-up carrots are all destined for the landfill when they could instead be composted into crumbly, nutrient-rich mulch.

(Cont. on page 7)

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Transplanted (from page 6)

Israel's climate is very similar to that of San Diego, in temperature and moisture (or lack thereof), so many of the plants familiar to us in Maryland as tropical houseplants here thrive outdoors. For instance, now is about the time most Marylanders are preparing to roll away to the garage or basement those glorious hibiscus blooms we keep on our decks—whereas here they grow outside year-round into enormous bushes, 7-8' high. Lantana is another popular annual in Maryland, with its round clumps of flowers turning from red to yellow as they mature.

In Israel, as in California, the lantana lives year round and sprawls to a width of 6.' Red and pink geraniums, which we grow as annuals in Maryland, also live through the winters here, and grow to be large and woody. Some look almost like shrubs, others drape themselves down stone walls.

I've also seen huge plantings of rubber plant 10' high, and ficus trees are commonly used as a landscaping hedge as well. Palm trees grow everywhere, and are common plants used by municipi-

pal authorities for landscaping along roads and highways. Other plants we Marylanders typically grow inside our houses, like spiderwort and philodendron, also grow outdoors here, so they can be used as we use liriopé or ivy at home.

As I've gotten settled here, I've taken cuttings from many plants, from neighbors and from fellow gardeners. My husband's cousins gave me a cutting from a geranium with deeply textured leaves folded like a paper fan, and told me to stick it in the dirt and keep it moist. Roots, they promised, would follow easily. So far it's still alive! I've taken cuttings from several ice-plant-like succulents, and stuck them in the ground as well, with good results.

I even broke a branch of a plumeria tree I saw in Tel Aviv, which I put in water. It's now covered with white wart-like bumps, which I hope will soon become roots. (Plumeria are typically seen in Hawaii, and their flowers, with five creamy-white or pink petals, are extremely fragrant.)

Most of all, gardening helps me to realize just how short a period 10 months is. For a gardener like me who plants baby trees for the joy they will bring me years from now, a year is hardly enough time to watch a plant flower, let alone grow to full size.

By the time this goes to print, 2 of our 10 months here in Haifa will have already passed. Thinking about time in this way helps me to realize just how much I have to seize the day and enjoy Israel. Before I know it, the adventure will be over!

While I'm here though, I plan to enjoy other people's gardens. Wandering into people's gardens with compliments and questions has already led to some interesting contacts in the neighborhood. How wonderful, to enjoy gardens and do absolutely no work on them myself – now *that* is a vacation!

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Cape Babysitters

To follow is a list of willing sitters. It is up to you to evaluate the qualifications of those listed below. To have your name added or removed from the list, please email the editor at: capereditor@cscia.org.

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Robyn Arp	410-626-7906	Hailey Llinas	410-757-2304
Corinne Bailey	410-626-8984	Marley Llinas	410-757-2304
Lara Baronti	410-757-6911	Katie Logan	410-757-0032
Alicija Bulota	410-757-6324	Kirstin Lynch	410-757-0693
Samantha Carr	410-626-8712	Michelle Maurer	410-626-7079
Melody Clore	410-757-3971	Mary Beth McAndrews	410-349-3728
Sabrina Coelho	443-370-4526	Chelsea Miller	410-757-6663
Heather Cook	410-315-7955	Courtney Miller	410-757-6663
Ashley Donatelli	410-757-4792	Monique Morgan	410-626-7037
Samantha Farrell	410-757-8934	Sara Naeseth	410-757-9255
Hillary Fisher	410-757-0304	Madeleine Schroeder	410-626-7576
Morgan Fowler	410-349-9311	Samantha Stern	410-626-7812
Britani Fox	410-626-7481	Sydney Stultz	410-757-3014
Molly Friedland	410-757-6517	Lauren Tucker	410-757-6841
Montana Geimer	410-349-0945	Lauren Velasco	410-757-4350
Phoenix Geimer	410-349-0945	Madison Welder	410-757-1359
Savannah Hamrick	443-822-1273	Liza Wambugu	410-757-4551
Margie Harper	410-626-8218	Lyndi Whitis	410-757-3651
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Fundraising Project to Support New Primary Playground at Cape St. Claire Elementary

The Cape Saint Claire Elementary Parent Teacher Organization (CSC-PTO) is working on an exciting new project!

The school playground that serves Kindergarten through 2nd grade needs to be replaced. The playground has served the children well for over 20 years, but no longer meets current safety and accessibility standards.

The total financial burden of replacing the equipment falls on the school and community at large as funds are not provided by Anne Arundel County.

The CSC-PTO is generating

monies through many efforts including a restaurant fundraiser, applying for grants and direct donations.

The project is estimated to cost at least \$20,000 including equipment, installation, permitting and landscaping. The CSC-PTO has provided an initial \$5,500 contribution. As you can see we still have a way to go!

The children of Cape St. Claire need your help! They need a safe place to play and one that all can access.

Many of you may remember playing on the playground as a child or have children or grandchildren attending or entering Cape St. Claire Elementary.

How Can You Help?

Please consider making a monetary donation of any amount to support the project.

Contact Yvonne Gazelle at 410-757-8963 or yetfguz@comcast.net.

You can also forward your donation to CSC-PTO, Attn: Kindergarten Project, 931 Blue Ridge Rd, Annapolis, MD 21409.

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Council In Action By Cathleen M. Vitale Councilwoman, District 5

Water Water Everywhere...In the Creeks, In the Streets and In the Air

Water seems to be on the minds of everyone these days. Maryland is in the middle of a drought. It's not severe yet, but most of Maryland is on "watch" status. As we wait for rain, it seems ironic that the hottest topic in the County Council is storm water management.

As you know, there is a proposal before the County Council, submitted by the County Executive, which will tax any increased impervious surface which you add to your property.

Under the County Executive's proposal, if you are putting an addition on your home, the County will charge you an additional \$.25 per square foot of new development for any addition over 150 sq feet (the size of a 10 by 15 porch).

There are certain rules and conditions, and of course, some exceptions. If you agree to put a green

roof on your addition, there is a credit. If you do not require a grading permit, there is no fee. If you are tearing down a house and replacing it with a brand new home, as long as you build in the same footprint, you pay nothing.

There has been widespread criticism of the Executive's legislation. The bill only addresses new construction, not existing impervious surface. Opponents argue that the current storm problems we have are due to old impervious surfaces, and this bill taxes new impervious surfaces only.

Amendments proposed by Councilmen Dillon, Benoit and Cohen seek to tax each property owner \$25 each year for residential lots and \$100 per year for commercial lots whether you are building on your property or doing nothing. In other words, if you owned a 1/2 acre, you would be taxed the same as the person with 50 acres.

A good commercial example would be Arundel Mills and Severna Park Automotive pay the same \$100 despite the inequity of their lot size. Again, there are opponents of this sys-

tem. Neither proposal suggests a cap on the amount you would pay and can always be increased by a vote of future County Councils.

I have spoken to many community organizations in our area as well as representatives of the County and Severna Park Chamber of Commerce on the County Executive's bill. Across the board, I have received support for an alternative. With the expected tax increases and fees being suggested on a State level, looking for alternatives to taxes and fees to address storm water runoff makes sense.

The other proposal before the County Council is to provide incentives for property owners to retrofit their properties using appropriate storm water reduction techniques. For those willing to take a positive action for containment of water on their property, I have proposed an incentive program which will give you 10% of the cost of the retrofit or \$2,500 in tax credits for a period of five years.

During the 2006 campaign, storm water management was a hot topic. At that time I supported the creation of tax incentives for

(Cont. on page 11)

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Council (from page 10)

techniques. I am pleased to be able to offer and introduce a piece of legislation that addresses incentives.

Along with the incentives will come an educational piece. After all, how does one retrofit their property if not aware of qualifying techniques? The bill is likely to include several specific types of retrofitting that will qualify one for the credit, as well as a separate tax credit structure if you are commercial versus residential property.

Did you know that you could reduce the amount of run off with a simple rain barrel or a well placed and maintained rain garden? I have learned over my time on the Council how even the

smallest project can have a great effect if more than one person participates. Consequently, the goal of Bill 85-07 is to start you on your way.

In addition to storm bills, the Council will be considering this month the following bills: Bill 69-07 (Zoning); 77-07 (Elderly housing of moderate means – which will allow housing for the elderly of moderate means as a special exception use in certain residential zoning districts); 78-07 (Signs – yes again, this time to regulate the use of temporary signs for certain events); 79-07 (golf courses- to allow golf courses on private property in certain zoning districts on specific acreage); 81-07 (a request for another cable franchise to be permitted in Anne Arundel

County – Cavalier); 84-07 (modifications to the Water and Sewer plans).

Also to be introduced in November, but not heard until December, is a bill expected to be introduced by Mr. Reilly that will allow homes to be built, if the number to be built is three or less, in areas that are already closed due to overcrowding. I suspect there will be some lively debate on that issue.

The issues coming before the Council require citizen input. Please communicate with my office, the County Executive and other members of your local and state delegations and voice your opinion, objections and suggestions. Until next time...

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Craft Shows



Christmas Craft Show—St. Andrew By the Bay November 17, 2007

St. Andrew by the Bay, 701 College Parkway, near Cape St. Claire, will hold its Annual Christmas Craft Show, November 17th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free.

The show features talented crafters and artists, bake sale, and raffle with lunch and snacks available for purchase. Raffles this year will be 2 tickets to the Raven's vs. Colts Game and an Amazing Spa/Gym Package. Another popular item is the Used Book Sale which will continue this year.

Proceeds from the show, sponsored by the Ladies of St. Andrew by the Bay, will benefit the many charitable and community projects of the Club. St. Andrew by the Bay is located at the corner of Cape St. Claire Road and College Parkway exit 29 B off Rout 50 East. For additional information, contact Jackie Scruggs, Craft Show Chairperson at 410 974-0106.

Arnold/Broadneck Women's Club Craft Show November 17, 2007

The Arnold/Broadneck Women's Club will hold its 23rd Annual Fall Craft Show on Saturday, November 17th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. inside the Severn River/Magothy River Middle Schools Complex, 241 Peninsula Farm Road, Arnold.

This is one of the longest running craft shows in the area, and is truly a gem. Crafters from all over Maryland will be represented. A Silent Auction will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

There is a \$1.00 donation per adult for entry. Proceeds go to support scholarships and community projects. For more information call Angela at 410-647-9470.

Clubhouse Rental News

Over the past year, as I have had the privilege of being responsible for the Community Clubhouse, I have had the opportunity to deal with many residents and many different situations. The majority of the time clubhouse rentals are very smooth, thanks to the organization of Elaine, the CSCIA office manager, and the courtesy of the renters. To those residents who rent the clubhouse and treat the facilities like it was their own home, I thank you!!

Unfortunately, not all residents have the same concern for this community facility. If you elect to rent the clubhouse for your special event please take the time to carefully read the contract that you sign. The expectations of the renter are clearly stated in this document. One would hope that each renter would leave the clubhouse as clean and tidy as it was when they began to set-up for their event. If we all practice this common courtesy and respect our clubhouse, like it was our own home, this facility will be available for rentals for many years to come. Thank you in advance for your consideration!

Mary Lamb
Clubhouse Chair
410-757-0593



Broadneck High School Spaghetti Dinner And Musical Evening

The Broadneck High School **Class of 2008** invites the community to join them for a spaghetti dinner fundraising event, on Thursday, December 6, 2007, from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the BHS cafeteria.

Light entertainment will be provided by local aspiring musicians. Take-out is available from the lobby. Tickets are \$7.00 at the door, \$6.00 in advance.

The senior class seating is at 7:00 p.m., tickets for seniors are \$5.00. Community youth groups, athletic teams and parents are specially invited to attend. Come check out your favorite high school, socialize with your friends and support a good cause!

Discounted tickets are available to team groups of 4 or more. Team or group representatives are encouraged to register prior to the event. Proceeds will be used to help defray graduation and prom expenses. For information call the event chairperson, Barbara O'Daniel, at 410-268-2933 or e-mail the Class of '08 at broadneck08@yahoo.com. Bring your appetites, sources say the spaghetti's delicious!

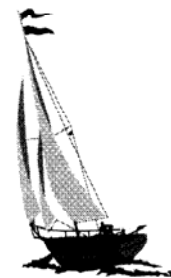
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